

Message Text

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13

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02

STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 AEC-05

DODE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INT-05 L-02 NSC-05 PM-03 OES-03

SS-15 /097 W

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8287

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 348

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 01293

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ENRG, ETRD, EEC, IR

SUBJECT: EC ENERGY COUNCIL, FEBRUARY 13, 1975: DISCUSSION
OF GERMAN PROPOSAL FOR DUTY-FREE ENTRY OF OIL PRODUCTS FROM
IRAN

REFS: A) EC BRUSSELS 1199

B) BONN 2478

1. THE QUESTION OF DUTY-FREE ENTRY INTO THE EC FOR PETROLEUM
PRODUCTS FROM THE GERMANS' PROPOSED JOINT-VENTURE REFINERY IN
IRAN WAS BRIEFLY DISCUSSED AT THE EC ENERGY COUNCIL IN BRUSSELS
ON FEBRUARY 13. ACCORDING TO SEVERAL SOURCES THE GERMAN STATE
SECRETARY ROHWEDDER, ASKED THAT HIS COLLEAGUES STATE THEIR
VIEWS CLEARLY ON THE GERMAN PROPOSAL. ALL EIGHT OTHER DELEGATIONS,
IN VARYING TERMS, REPORTEDLY SAID THEY WERE OPPOSED TO THE
PROPOSITION. ITALY, WHICH WOULD FIND ITS OIL REFINERIES THE
MOST SEVERELY AFFECTED IF THE PROPOSAL WERE ADOPTED, OBJECTED
STRONGLY SAYING THAT NO SUCH DECISION SHOULD BE TAKEN BEFORE
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THE COMMISSION HAD COMPLETED ITS EXPLORATIONS AS REQUESTED

BY THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS ON FEBRUARY 10-11 (REF A). WHEN THE GERMANS RESPONDED THAT THE VIEWS EXPRESSED AROUND THE TABLE AMOUNTED TO A "FLAT NO", NO ONE DISAGREED WITH THEIR ASSESSMENT. EC SOURCES EMPHASIZE, HOWEVER, THAT THIS OUTCOME DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE QUESTION OF A BROADER EC PREFERENTIAL AGREEMENT WITH IRAN IS NECESSARILY DEAD. (COMMENT: THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE FRG MAY CONTINUE TO RAISE THE DUTY-FREE ENTRY ISSUE AGAIN AS PART OF THE GENERAL SUBJECT OF EC-IRAN RELATIONS CANNOT BE EXCLUDED).

2. WE WERE TOLD THAT ROHWEDDER, IN AN OFF-THE-RECORD BRIEFING FOR THE GERMAN PRESS, DENIED RECENT REPORTS (REFTEL B) THAT THE IRANIANS HAD IMPOSED A DEADLINE OF FEBRUARY 25 FOR THE GERMAN CONSORTIUM PARTICIPATING IN THE JOINT REFINERY PROJECT TO DECLARE ITS FINAL INTENTIONS. GREENWALD

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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